



## THE BREITENWINNER CAVE EXPLORATION IN 1535

**D**ear Sir: Following your request for further information subsequent to the publication of this article in NEXUS June–July 2005 [12/04], I would like to provide some facts which may be helpful. Amberg is a medium-sized town (approximately 50,000) in northeastern Bavaria in Germany. Since the 13th century it has been a centre of trade to Bohemia (Czech Republic), the border of which today is about 100 km away. It is situated on the eastern border of the Frankonian Jura, a limestone formation well known for its many caves and mining activities back to prehistoric times. For more detailed information on the area, I have included a copy of a current road atlas.

### Inconsistencies of the article

- "...citizens of the town of Amberg set off to a mountainous area three miles distant from Amberg." There is no village of Predenwind within this distance of the town, and one has to question why the good citizens had to stay overnight in Hohenburg just to cover three miles.

- The cave is called "Breitenwinner Cave", supposedly because it is near the village of Predenwind. I think it is fair to conclude that Breitenwinn and Predenwind are one and the same location, "Preden-" being an old form or local dialect of the High German "Breiten-". However, from my knowledge of the dialect spoken in the

area, "Preden-" is not a word used; rather, it may come from Flat German, which is spoken in the far north of Germany.

- It is unclear if this text is the original, but, if so, the style and words used are not consistent with the time when it was published. For comparison, I also include a copy of a text published in 1552, which despite the archaic font can be read by most German-speakers but certainly is not even close to what the Buchner account provides.

### Historical/geographical background

- There is a cave called "Holloch" ("hollow hole"), close to another one called "King Otto Cave", close (about three miles) to a village called Breithenthal and two villages called Kirchenwinn and Reicherstwinn, in an area about 12 km southwest of Hohenburg. With an early start from Hohenburg, these caves could be reached by early/mid-morning. Breithenthal could have been called "Breitenwinn" in the past. Alternatively, this may point to a simple mix-up of place names.

- The caves are just outside a restricted military training area which was established in the first half of last century (Hohenfels Truppenübungsplatz), and I went to both caves when I spent time with the military. Holloch is like an elongated gate through the mountain, whereas the other is known to be quite extensive underground.

- Back to before Roman times and for a long time after, the area was settled by Slavic people called "Wendish" (Wenden in German), equivalent to "Sorbs" (Sorben). With the eastward colonisation of the Franks after 800 CE, Germanic people increasingly settled there too, living in reasonable coexistence and indicated by many place names ending in -thal, -dorf, -hausen, -ing, etc. However, typical Slavic names remained, such as those ending in -winn, -wind, -a, -is, -itz. It is interesting to note that the Romans called today's Augsburg "Augusta Vindelicorum", the Wendish "Augusta". Also the noble family of Windischgrätz, royal in both the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation, has its roots in exactly the same area.

- These Slavic tribes were renowned for their mining skills and at the time of the Buchner publication in 1535 may have been marginalised and taken up living in caves and abandoned mines. This accounts for the encounter with the female "ghost".

It is also undisputed that the Jura caves had been occupied even before Neolithic times; so, not surprisingly, even fossilised bones in great quantities may be found.

I conclude by agreeing that the "ignorant will not believe this story" but equally also those who have some understanding of history.

Best regards,

Peter L. Zeidler, Richmond, Victoria, Australia

# THE TWILIGHT ZONE

## MASS SIGHTINGS OF UFO FLEET OVER XALAPA, MEXICO

A mass UFO sighting took place on Friday 24 June 2005 in Xalapa, Mexico. This stunning event was witnessed by Xalapa's governor, Fidel Herrera Beltrán, members of his staff, many officers of the Xalapa police department, newspapers and television reporters and many people gathered at Casa Veracruz for an official ceremony for the delivery of new police patrol cars to the police department.

The amazing incident took place at 10.30 am, causing commotion, excitement and some alarm among the people and officials.

Just after Governor Beltrán finished a speech inaugurating the new units, his attention was called by his officials who were signalling to the sky where a strange spectacle was appearing.

A fleet of at least 14 unknown flying objects shocked the entire gathering at Casa Veracruz who, pointing to the sky, screamed "OVNIs, OVNIs!" in a tremendous state of excitement. The police officers were also signalling to the sky, wondering what these unknown flying objects could be.

Newspaper reporters were taking photos and the television crew videotaped the entire spectacle. Governor Beltrán took the microphone and said jokingly: "It seems the Martians have arrived!"

After some minutes, Governor Beltrán continued reviewing the new police patrol units while the attention of the people was divided between the official act and the UFO spectacle.

Some time later, Governor Beltrán returned to the stage and, looking again to the sky, realised the UFOs were still there. So he took the microphone again and began counting the objects—one, two...thirteen, fourteen—to the smiles of the people.

The enigmatic flying objects remained almost static in the sky, in a formation describing a triangular pattern in perfect alignment for almost 30 minutes.

(Source: By Santiago Yturria, 25 June 2005, via <http://www.rense.com/general66/massive.htm>)

## ENGLISH WORDS IDENTIFIED ON BLACK TRIANGULAR CRAFT!

On 9 April 2005, I saw what I believe to be a UFO in Comanche County, Texas, at 9.12 pm local time.

That evening, I was walking back to my motor home after wild boar hunting in an unpopulated area that I lease for hunting. The sky was clear, the wind was calm and the sun had just set. The sky was growing a darker and darker blue straight above and stars were beginning to show...

I had my rifle set up with a high-tech Leupold optical sight (scope), which is extremely accurate and highly specialised for great light-gathering ability and performs best in low-light conditions. The scope magnifies the target image with great sharpness and definition and the magnification is adjustable from 4.5 to 14 times that of the natural image.

Upon my return to the motor home, I was tired after a long walk. I had carried quite a bit of equipment with me. I sat on a chair, took my eyeglasses off and towelled my face, as it was already becoming hot in Texas.

While I rested, without my glasses on, I noticed three very "unfocussed" lights to my south and these lights were moving toward me. Immediately I put my glasses back on and saw what I believe was a UFO.

The object approached from the south-southwest, and while moving north-northeast it passed almost directly overhead, making no sound whatsoever.

I estimated its altitude to be somewhere about 800

feet and its air speed approximately 30 mph. It "floated" and did not fly, as it obviously had insufficient airspeed to fly. (I am a physicist and an FAA-licensed pilot.)

I could clearly see its underside, as it was illuminated from the fading sunlight to the west. I estimated that the machine was about 60 feet wide, 80 feet long and 10 feet thick at the rear. Under its belly, there was a straight line going from its leading tip toward the centre of the aft edge of the fuselage, which was perpendicular to its [direction of] travel. This straight edge clearly showed its shape to be three-dimensional. The straight line showed that its belly was V-shaped, much like the hull of a speedboat.

This machine was directly over me and I was alone in the middle of nowhere, therefore I felt quite "uneasy". It made no threatening moves whatsoever, but I aimed my rifle at it and through the riflescope, which was set on 8.5 power, I could clearly see surface detail in explicit detail.

The machine's surface detail appeared to be covered with well-fitted tiles, much like the ceramic tiles used on the US space shuttle.

Then, in the fading light, I noticed a distinct marking. This marking was absolutely shocking, as I could actually read it! It was white print outlined in black on a red arrow pointing toward a rectangle of sorts...something rectangular that I cannot define, but I clearly could read these words, "EMERGENCY RELEASE and RESCUE". In the same place were other words that appeared too fuzzy to read. I suspect that these words were "PULL FOR..."

Instantly I realised that this was a military machine and no "flying saucer". I felt much better, as I knew that these were surface details that were intended to help rescuers gain access to remove the pilots on board in the event of a crash.

I kept the crosshairs on the centre of the aircraft as it disappeared into the darkness, but as I realised it was "one of ours" and it was not a threat to my personal safety (I think) I put the rifle safety back on.

I can see, however, that others may have "defensively" shot at it—and that may have resulted in a crash of the vehicle.

(Source: From a UFO report posted on 16 April 2005 at <http://www.nuforc.org/webreports/043/S43465.html>)



"Drought's been bad, so I've only got a bunch of cropless circles this year."

## BRAZILIAN AIR FORCE BEGINS DISCLOSURE ON UFOs

Friday 20 May 2005 was an historic day for ufology in Brazil and in the world. The Brazilian Air Force (FAB), for the very first time in its history, officially received a committee of top UFO researchers to openly discuss sightings in the country and fully examine classified UFO documents in two separate military facilities in Brasilia, the federal capital.

"We want to have all information on the subject, which has been withheld by us for some decades, fully released to the public through the UFO community," declared Brigadier Telles Ribeiro, chief of the Brazilian Air Force communication centre.

The Brazilian Government, through the Brazilian Air Force, has finally decided to come forward and recognise UFO research as a genuine activity.

This is a direct result of the intense pressure made by the campaign "UFOs: Freedom of Information Now", a movement started by the Brazilian *UFO Magazine* in April 2004. The campaign was launched by the Brazilian Committee of UFO Researchers (CBU), composed of six UFO civilian researchers: Claudeir Covo, Marco Petit, Rafael Cury, Reginaldo de Athayde, Fernando Ramalho and A. J. Gevaerd.

Details of the campaign in both Portuguese and English can be consulted at websites <http://www.ufo.com.br> and <http://www.ufo.com.br/secretcy.php>.

The approach of the Brazilian military to the CBU committee started last February, 10 months after the campaign began, with a phone call from a Brazilian Air Force spokesman, Major Antonio Lorenzo, and a formal invitation to a visit and a chat in some Air Force headquarters in Brasilia.

Two meetings between the civilian UFO researchers and the military took place on Friday 20 May, and the first was in the headquarters of the Integrated Centre of Air Defence and Air Traffic Control (Centro Integrado de Defesa Aérea e Controle de Tráfego Aéreo, or CINDACTA), a very sensitive facility.

For over two hours, the researchers were given lectures on the procedures conducted at CINDACTA and had the chance to visit air traffic control rooms and understand how UFOs could be detected by Air Force personnel.

The second and more important meeting took place just after this one at the very

reserved facilities of the Brazilian Airspace Defence Command (Comando de Defesa Aérea Brasileiro, or COMDABRA), an even more sensitive installation that controls the entire air defence situation in the country and surrounding areas of the Atlantic Ocean and South America. In this facility, the UFO researchers were given a full briefing on the top aspects of aerial defence of the country.

It was in this facility that its own commander, Brigadier Atheneu Azambuja, admitted to the UFO researchers how concerned the Brazilian military is about the UFO phenomenon. Azambuja also gave details of COMDABRA procedures and openly admitted that the country has systematically detected and registered UFOs in the country—labelled as "H traffic"—since 1954.

After detailed explanations of COMDABRA activities, Brigadier Atheneu Azambuja gave full access for the first time to the civilian UFO researchers to examine three different folders with classified UFO information—cases from the specific dates of 1954, 1977 and 1986.

The first case was that of an aircraft pursuit of a UFO over the ocean shores of Paraná State.

The second file was much more important. In the folder containing the 1977 documents that could be examined by the UFO researchers there were dozens of cases of UFOs in the Amazon, with an amazing number of pictures—over 100—

made during the so-called Operation *Saucer*, an official program of UFO investigation by the military that took place from September to December 1977 and has been fully covered by specialised UFO press around the world.

The third case was "The Official Night of UFOs in Brazil", a very significant group of events that happened in May 1986, when 21 objects of over 100 metres in diameter jammed Brazilian air traffic control systems over mainly Rio de Janeiro, São José dos Campos and São Paulo, and several jets were sent to intercept the intruders but without any success.

The Brazilian Air Force representatives at those meetings then admitted that ufology is serious business and they broadly recognised the activity of UFO research by the civilian UFO community.

They also guaranteed that further steps are about to be taken to let the researchers examine the entire military UFO files in a more comprehensive way.

Plus, it was promised that a committee of military and civilian UFO researchers would start operating very soon, coordinated by the Brazilian Committee of UFO Researchers.

(Source: By A. J. Gevaerd, Editor of *UFO Magazine, Brazil*, and head of the *Brazilian Committee of UFO Researchers (CBU)*, posted 23 May 2005, email [gevaerd@ufo.com.br](mailto:gevaerd@ufo.com.br), website <http://www.ufo.com.br>)



From left: A. J. Gevaerd, Fernando Ramalho, Roberto Beck, Marco Petit, Rafael Cury and Claudeir Covo outside the offices of the Integrated Centre of Air Defence and Air Traffic Control (Centro Integrado de Defesa Aérea e Controle de Tráfego Aéreo, or CINDACTA) after their two-hour visit.